



Hunting Resource Guide



Dear Friend,

It is time to begin planning for the Michigan tradition of hunting. There are many different hunting options. With deer, turkey, elk, bear and waterfowl, there is sure to be something for every outdoor enthusiast.

Contained in this resource guide are helpful hints that will make your hunting experiences more enjoyable. If you don't hunt and just like to enjoy Michigan's nature, these tips will help keep you and your family safe and informed. There is information on hunting seasons, license requirements, safety tips and much more.

As always, I welcome your suggestions and comments on ways I can help preserve the natural beauty and hunting tradition here in Michigan.

Sincerely,

Raymond E. Basham

State Senator • 8th District

State Senator Raymond E. Basham

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E-License • www.mdnr-elicense.com

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources E-License system is designed to allow customers to purchase hunting and fishing licenses, special hunt applications and permits

24 hours a day, 7 days a week within applicable sales dates. You will also be able to print most small game and fishing licenses using your own printer. Their goal is to make the license-

buying process easier for customers who enjoy the great State of Michigan. Kill tags are available for sale on E-License. Expect kill tags to arrive within 7 business days of your purchase.

Do Not Move Firewood

Hunters can make an important contribution to stop the spread of the emerald ash borer (EAB) by leaving firewood at home and purchasing it after reaching their destination.

Since its discovery, EAB has killed an estimated 15 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Most of the tree loss has been in southeastern Michigan. Recently, however, outlying infestations have been detected throughout northern lower Michigan and in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Most of these outlying infestations are a result of moving firewood that contained the little green bug

from southeastern Michigan. Moving firewood is the single most important factor in the long-distance spread of EAB and puts Michigan's 700 million ash trees at risk. Hunters need to remember that Michigan has a quarantine prohibiting the movement of all hardwood firewood out of quarantined areas.

Early Firearm Antlerless Hunt

An early firearm antlerless deer hunting season will take place on private land in some Lower Peninsula Deer Management Units from Sept. 18 through Sept. 22, 2008. The DMUs that will be open are shaded on the map. You must possess a valid private land antlerless deer license or Deer Management Assistant permit issued for the DMU in which you are hunting to take a deer during this season. You also must have permission from the landowner or leaseholder before hunting on private land, and the telephone number of the private landowner is required to acquire a private land antlerless deer license. You may not bait for deer during the early firearm antlerless deer hunting season. All firearm hunters must be 12 or older and must wear Hunter Orange. Youths 10 and

11 are restricted to archery-only hunting, and must possess a private land antlerless license or DMA permit and must wear Hunter Orange. Archery and junior archery deer licenses are not valid for this hunt.



2008 Hunting Guides

Before you go out hunting, be sure to visit the DNR online at www.michigan.gov/dnr to access the 2008 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide. Along with rules and regulations, the Guide contains information on changes in the law, hunting seasons, wildlife diseases, hunting with disabilities and much more. You can also get a printed copy from your local license agent. Here is a list of the 2008 specialty hunting guides that are available online:

2008 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide

2008 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide

2008 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Guide

2008 Michigan Fall Turkey Hunting Guide

2008 Michigan Elk Hunting Guide

2008 Michigan Bear Hunting Guide

Special Disabled Firearm Hunt Weekend

It is important that every person who enjoys the fresh air of the outdoors and the excitement of hunting has an opportunity to do so. Every year Michigan sets aside a special deer hunting weekend for those who are disabled. This year that weekend is **October 16 through 19**.

This weekend gives those who are disabled a truly unique opportunity to experience the joys of hunting. Please encourage those who are disabled to take advantage of this



weekend because this is more than just about hunting; it is about providing an opportunity to someone who might not otherwise have had one.

Please visit www.michigan.gov/dnr for more information on the special disabled firearm hunt weekend.

Hunter Safety Education

- You must take hunter safety if you were born after **January 1, 1960**.
- A hunter safety certificate or previous hunting license is required to purchase any Michigan Hunting License.
- Hunters anticipating an out-of-state hunting trip need to obtain a certificate prior to their trip, as most states require hunters to carry their certificate when hunting and need it to purchase a license.

The hunter safety course is NOT the equivalent of a specific gun safety course and does NOT meet the requirements for Concealed Weapons Permits. Please visit the Michigan State Police website at www.michigan.gov/msp for information on Concealed Weapons Permits.

Hunting Safety Tips

Many non-hunters might be surprised to learn that hunting is one of the safest outdoor activities around. But that doesn't happen by accident. It starts with hunting safety first. Efforts like hunter education and the use of Hunter Orange have had a big impact on making the sport safer. In fact, the DNR has reported a significant drop in hunter-related injuries and deaths since mandatory hunter safety classes began.

So before you head out into Michigan's great outdoors, remember to hunt safely and keep these basic firearm rules in mind:

- ***Always have complete control of your weapon.***
- ***Always treat your firearm as if it were loaded.***
- ***Before firing, know your target and what is beyond.***
- ***Be sure the gun is safe to operate and use only the correct ammunition.***
- ***Always unload your weapon before putting it in your vehicle or camp.***
- ***NEVER mix hunting and alcohol.***

DNR Telephone Numbers

Wildlife Bureau	517-373-1263
Fisheries	517-373-1280
Parks & Recreation	517-373-9900
Forest Management	517-373-1275
Law Enforcement	517-373-1230
Report All Poaching	800-292-7800





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2008-2009 Michigan Hunting Season

✂ *Clip and Save*

SPECIES	SEASON DATES						
	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.
COTTONTAIL RABBIT & VARYING HARE	SEPT. 15 - MAR. 31						
DEER: YOUTH AND 100% DISABLED VETERANS FIREARM	SEPT. 27 - 28						
SPECIAL DISABLED FIREARM HUNT		OCT. 16 - 19					
ARCHERY		OCT. 1 - NOV. 14		DEC. 1 - JAN. 1			
REGULAR FIREARM			NOV. 15 - 30				
EARLY/LATE FIREARM ANTLERLESS	SEPT. 18 - 22			DEC. 22 - JAN. 1			
MUZZLELOADING				DEC. 5 - 14 (ZONE 1) DEC. 12 - 21 (ZONE 2) DEC. 5 - 21 (ZONE 3)			
PHEASANT (MALE)		OCT. 10 - 31 (RESTRICTED AREA, ZONE 1) OCT. 20 - NOV. 14 (ZONES 2, 3) DEC. 1 - JAN. 1 (RESTRICTED AREA, ZONE 3)					
QUAIL		OCT. 20 - NOV. 14 (RESTRICTED AREA)					
RUFFED GROUSE	SEPT. 15 - NOV. 14			DEC. 1 - JAN. 1			
SQUIRREL	SEPT. 15 - MAR. 1						
FALL WILD TURKEY		OCT. 6 - NOV. 14 (SEE 2008 TURKEY HUNTING GUIDE)					
WOODCOCK	SEPT. 20 - NOV. 5						

NOTE: Consult the official **2008 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide** for the full hunting schedule and to determine hunting zones, bag limits, and special restrictions. Access it at www.michigan.gov/dnr.